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Thailand

Market Development Reports

Animal Feed Import Regulation

2007

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Report Highlights:

Feed ingredients remain one of Thailand's biggest imports from the United States. The current U.S. market share exceeding 40 percent and there is strong annual growth. In 2006, Thailand imported approximately \$86 million in U.S. feed ingredients, including pet food, which was nearly twice the value of imports in 2001 (\$44 million). Despite the high volume of trade, complexities associated with animal feed classifications and documentation still present difficulties for importers and exporters alike. This report seeks to clarify import procedures for feed ingredients/products.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
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[TH]

I. Introduction

Feed ingredients remain one of Thailand's biggest imports from the United States. The current U.S. market share exceeds 40 percent and there is strong annual growth. In 2006, Thailand imported approximately \$86 million in U.S. feed ingredients, including pet food, which was nearly twice the value of imports in 2001 (\$44 million). Despite the high volume of trade, complexities associated with animal feed classifications and documentation still present difficulties for importers and exporters alike. This report seeks to clarify import procedures for feed ingredients/products.

II. Steps to be Successful in Importation

According to the Control of Animal Feed Quality Act B.E. 2522 (1952), the Bureau of Livestock Standards and Certification, Department of Livestock Development (DLD), the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives is responsible for licensing the local manufacturing, importation registration, advertisement and sale of animal feed products. There are three main steps required for successfully importing feed products into Thailand; obtaining an importation license, product registration, and importation clearance.

2.1 Importation License

Only Thai citizens or companies registered in Thailand are permitted to import animal feed for sale. The process of obtaining a license takes approximately 45 days after the importer has filed the application. However, Thai officials have the right to extend the review process by an additional 30 days if needed, but are limited to only two 30-day extensions. Justification for prolonging or denying the importation license will be disclosed at the end of the review period. The fee for this process is 10,000 Baht or approximately \$285.

Importation licenses are valid for one year after the issuing date. Renewal requests must be filed within 30 days of expiration with the Bureau of Livestock Standards and Certification.

2.2 Product Registration

After obtaining an import license, recipients can apply for product registration. According to trade sources, this process generally lasts three months. Fees are charged at 1,000 Baht or approximately \$29 per feed formulation. The DLD issues product registration approval for an indefinite period. However, the DLD maintains the right to revoke the product license in the event of food safety concerns or if there are no imports of the product in a consecutive two-year period.

Five categories of Animal Feed products**1) Feed stuff**

- a) Soybean meal
- b) Roasted soybean
- c) Pea meal
- d) Fishmeal grade 1
- e) Fishmeal grade 2
- f) Fishmeal grade 3
- g) Coarse bran
- h) Bran
- i) Oil-refined bran
- j) Mashed corn grade 1
- k) Mashed corn grade 2
- l) Corn grade 1
- m) Corn grade 2
- n) Fish and Fishbone meal
- o) Bird feather

2) Milk

The following milk products are considered as animal feed for every kind of animal;

- a) Whole milk powder feed grade
- b) Skimmed milk powder feed grade
- c) Partly skimmed milk powder feed grade
- d) Denatured skimmed milk powder
- e) Whey powder
- f) Milk replacer
- g) Denatured whey powder
- h) Processed whey powder

3) Feed Supplement

The Act defines “feed supplement” as a mixed supplement, containing the addition of nutrition and/or dilute or mix with animal feed before being fed directly to animals. Feed supplements can be classified into four types;

- a) Protein dietary
- b) Mineral supplement
- c) Vitamins
- d) Fat dietary

4) Animal Feed

The Act regulates finished animal feed, feed concentrates, pet food and animal feed mixed with pharmaceuticals under the category of animal feed

5) Premix Ingredient

The Act defines “Premix” as the mixture of one or more micro-ingredients with a proper carrier, such as clay, silicon dioxide, or kaolin, before being mixed into animal feed. The amount of

carrier should be no less than 50 percent and 80 percent in the case of growth promotants. The premixes that are currently available on the market are;

- a) Supplementary mixer
- b) Vitamin premix
- c) Antibiotic premix
- d) Vitamin-antibiotic premix
- e) Mineral premix
- f) Premixes comprised of a single or two types of micro-ingredient with proper carrier
- g) Premixes that comprise of vitamin, antibiotic and trace elements with proper carrier

III. Importation Clearance

Upon importation, importers are required to tender the importation request form together with other DLD required forms listed below. Importers are recommended to initiate the process at least three days prior to shipment arrival.

IV. Documentation Meeting Import Requirements

Required documents for import license request;

- a) Animal feed importation license application form
- a) Copy of enterprise ownership
- b) Copy of applicant identification
- c) Copy of house registration
- d) Copy of company affidavit with authorized signature with validity period of not over six months (in case of a company request)
- e) Copy of VAT registration
- f) Copy of work permit (in case foreign staff carry out the application)
- g) Sample of animal feed at minimum quantity of 500 grams

Required documents for import license renewal

- a) Animal feed importation license extension request form
- b) Original or copy of import license
- c) Copy of company affidavit with authorized signature with validity period of not over six months (in case of a company request)
- d) Certificate of feed formulation
- e) Report of import quantity statistic
- f) Sample of animal feed at minimum quantity of 500 grams
- g) Copy of invoice according to type of animal feed

Required documents for product registration

Feed Stuff

- a) Application for animal feed – feed stuff registration
- b) Copy of importation license
- c) Sample of labeling and label statement
- d) Certificate of analysis with methodology
- e) Sample of raw material of 500 grams

- f) Processing flow chart
- g) Usage test report (if any)
- h) List of ingredients in animal feed by type and substance(if any)

Milk

- a) Application for animal feed – milk registration
- b) Copy of importation license
- c) Sample of labeling and label statement
- d) Certificate of free sale
- e) Processing flow chart
- f) Sample of milk product of 500 grams
- g) Certificate of analysis with methodology

Feed Supplement

- a) Application for animal feed – supplement registration
- b) Copy of importation license
- c) Sample or picture of packaging with label and statement
- d) Certificate of formulation
- e) Certificate of free sale
- f) Processing flow chart
- g) Certificate of analysis with methodology
- h) Usage test report (if any)

Premix Ingredient

- a) Application for animal feed – premix ingredient registration
- b) Copy of importation license
- c) Certificate of analysis
- d) Product information
- e) Sample of label and label statement
- f) Sample or picture of packaging

Animal Feed

- a) Animal feed request form
- b) Copy of animal feed importation license
- c) Product information
- d) Certificate of formulation
- e) Sample of labeling
- f) Sample of imported product of 500 grams
- g) Certificate of analysis with methodology
- i) Certificate of free sale
- j) Certificate of health
- k) Certificate of origin
- l) Usage test report (if any)

Required documents for importation clearance

- a) Invoice
- b) Bill of lading
- c) Packing list
- d) Certificate of analysis
- e) Product information
- f) Certificate of formulation
- g) Certificate of free sale
- h) List of buyers with purchase quantities

Remark:

Product information should provide product description, product application, storage and packaging including product shelf life.

V. Key Contact

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End of report.